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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/714,947

Examiner

Sandra L. Brase

Applicant(s)

KATO ET AL.

Art Unit

2852

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 6/6/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 June 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                 | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance              |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |



Sandra L. Brase  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 2852

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please substitute the enclosed Replacement Sheets of drawings for the corresponding drawing sheets currently on file.

FIG. 2 has been amended by changing the label on box 101 from "DOCUMENT FEEDER" to -- DOCUMENT FEEDER --.

FIG. 5 has been amended by changing reference characters S1-S5, M1-M5 and SL1 to S11-S15, M11-M15 and SL11, respectively, and amending the figure to match the description of FIG. 5 in the specification.

FIG. 6 has been amended by replacing originally filed FIG. 6 with a new figure which matches the description of FIG. 6 in the specification. Originally filed FIG. 6 has been re-labeled as FIG. 7.

FIG. 7 as amended corresponds to originally filed FIG. 6, but has been re-labeled as FIG. 7. Also, reference characters 502, 520, 521, 611, 612, 630, 711, 712, and 720 have been inserted to match the description of this figure in the specification. Originally filed FIG. 7 has been deleted as duplicative of FIG. 8.

FIG. 9 has been amended by changing reference character "650" to -- 600 --.

approved  
JHB  
8/17/05